# **Ohio Veterans Bonus Program**

Please contact our office with assistance in applying for the Ohio Veterans Bonus. In cases where veterans deployed specific records should be submitted to ensure the application is processed correctly. Our office will provide assistance in obtaining records, completing the application and notarization.

## **Eligibility Criteria**

Active Service Member

Veteran

Medically discharged or medically retired from service due to combat-related disabilities sustained during Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, or Iraq service

Family of a Veteran whose death was not a result of injuries or illness sustained in Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, or Iraq service

Family of a Veteran whose death was a result of injuries or illness sustained in Persian Gulf, Afghanistan or Iraq service

Veteran or the family of a Veteran who was declared Prisoner of War or Missing in Action.

A person who has served greater than 90 days of active duty service in the US Armed Forces, excluding dates for training, during at least one of the compensable time periods and meets eligibility requirements may be eligible for the Ohio Veterans Bonus.

- 1. Served or currently serving in the US Armed Forces during compensable periods:
  - a. Persian Gulf Aug 2, 1990 through Mar 3, 1991.
  - b. Afghanistan Oct 7, 2001 through a date to be determined by President of the United States.
  - c. Iraq Mar 19, 2003 through a date to be determined by President of the United States.
- 2. The person was separated from the United States armed forces under honorable conditions, is still serving in active duty or after serving on active duty remains in any reserve component of the United States armed forces or in the Ohio National Guard.
- 3. The person was an Ohio resident at the start of active duty service.
- 4. The person is currently an Ohio resident.
- 5. The person has not received a bonus or compensation of a similar nature from another state.

#### Compensation

• \$100 per month, not to exceed \$1,000, for service in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan or Iraq during the compensable periods.

• \$50 per month, not to exceed \$500, for service anywhere else in the world during the compensable periods.

Service for a fraction of a month shall be paid at the rate of 1/30 of the appropriate monthly amount for each day of service. Compensation may not exceed \$1,500 for combined service.

# **Active Duty Service Member**

US Armed Forces active duty service members who have served greater than 90 days may be eligible for bonus compensation if they meet the eligibility criteria (1-5) indicated above.

## Required Documentation

- Military records showing dates when serving in the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan and/or Iraq or anywhere else in the world.
- Proof of Ohio residency at start of military service.
- Proof of current Ohio residency.
- The following documents may be used to establish Ohio residency:
  - o Ohio driver's license
  - o Leave & Earnings Statement
  - Voter registration records
  - Ohio State Income Tax Return